

said forward end portion and the maximum height portion and curving downwardly and forwardly towards said forward end portion to provide said hacksaw with a lower overall height at the forward end portion of said frame member than at the maximum height portion, said maximum height portion being defined at the point where both the distance between said blade and said lower end cap is a maximum and the arcuate portion begins its downward and forward curvature;

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a first blade mounting structure carried by the hacksaw frame assembly, one of said longitudinal end portions of said blade being removably mounted on said first blade mounting structure;

a releaseable blade tensioning device carried by the hacksaw frame assembly and providing a second blade mounting structure on which the other of said longitudinal end portions of said blade is removably mounted, said blade tensioning device being movable to (a) affect relative tensioning movement between said first and second blade mounting structures to tension said blade in the longitudinal direction thereof, and (b) to affect relative releasing movement between said first and second blade mounting structures to release the tension to allow for removal and replacement of said blade;

one of said first and second blade mounting structures being provided on said forward end portion of said frame member such that the tension in said blade caused by the relative tensioning movement of said blade mounting structures applies a rearwardly directed load to said forward end portion to create a bending moment which is distributed along said arcuate portion with said upper end cap

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Conclusion  
along said arcuate portion being subject to tension and said lower end cap along said arcuate portion being subject to compression so that said upper and lower end caps cooperate to resist deflection of said frame member; and

said hacksaw frame assembly further comprising a manually engageable handle connected to said frame member for being manually grasped to enable performance of a cutting operation wherein the cutting edge of the tensioned blade is engaged with a work piece and moved forwardly and rearwardly to cut the work piece.

Claim 4, line 2, please change "circumference" to --radius--.

#### REMARKS

The Applicant's representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of the telephone interview in which the foregoing amendments were discussed prior to formal submission. Although no agreement was reached, the Applicant's representative appreciates the opportunity to discuss the substance of the claims with the Examiner.

Claims 1-23 are currently pending in the present application.

Claims 4-9 were rejected under §112, ¶2 based on the use of the term "circumference" in claim 4. To obviate this rejection, claim 4 has been amended to change "circumference" to "radius" as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim 1, the only independent claim of the application, stands rejected under §103 as being obvious over David in view of Wells '653. In response to this rejection, claim 1 has been amended to more specifically recite the combination of the elements